

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for executing a transaction related to an item or a service using a telephone, the method comprising:

providing information identifying the item or the service and

5 providing a query as to a transaction to be performed, the transaction being related to the identified item or service; and

sending to a server system a request to execute the transaction related to the identified item or service in response to a user answer;

whereby the transaction is executed without the user performing a

10 single action on a computer interface.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of providing information identifying the item or service comprises selectively identifying a category of items and services.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the step of selectively identifying a  
15 category of items and services comprises selectively identifying an attribute of the category of items and services.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction performed is a  
purchase.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the transaction performed is a bid.

20 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising selectively providing an advertisement related to the identified item or service during the execution of the transaction.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of selectively providing an advertisement comprises providing an advertisement on an item or service which is  
25 different from the identified item or service.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising providing a query associated with the advertised item or service as to a transaction to be performed.

9. A voice-controlled transaction service adapted to process transactions over the Internet, the service comprising:

5 a user interface; and

at least one database coupled to the user interface, the user interface coordinating voice communications with a user, the voice communications including item or service information and transactions associated with the item or service, the at least one database storing item and service information;

10 whereby transactions are executed without the user pressing a button, clicking a mouse, or any other manual input to a computing device.

10. The service of claim 9, further comprising a network interface coupled to the at least one database, the network interface being configured to access the item and service information over the Internet, process requests related to the item and service information, and carry out transactions involving the identified item or service.

11. The service of claim 10, further comprising a fusion engine configured to compare information obtained from at least one web site and selectively establish canonical data files corresponding to information gathered from multiple web sites.

12. The service of claim 9, further comprising a customer manager configured to record user information associated with user preferences and user behavior related to the service.

13. The service of claim 12, wherein the customer manager is configured to provide user information to the user interface such that the user interface may personalize the service for particular users.

14. The service of claim 9, further comprising an advertising subsystem configured to selectively provide the user interface with advertisements.

15. The service of claim 14, wherein the advertising subsystem provides the user interface with advertisements targeted to particular users based on  
5 information about the user.

16. The service of claim 9, further comprising an existant subsystem coupled to the at least one database, the existant subsystem being configured to manage all information into and out of the at least one database.

17. A service for providing access to Internet-based information and  
10 execution of Internet-based transactions where the user communicates with the service using voice over a telephone, the service comprising:

means for providing information identifying an item or a service and providing a query as to a transaction to be performed which is related to the identified item or service; and

15 means for sending to a server system a request to execute the transaction related to the identified item or service in response to a user answer to the provided question.

18. The service of claim 17, further comprising means for retrieving information identifying an item or a service from a database.

20 19. The service of claim 18, wherein the means for retrieving information identifying an item or a service from a database comprises means for retrieving information from the Internet.

25 20. A computer program product comprising computer readable program code for execution a transaction related to an item or a service using a communication device, the program code in the computer program product comprising:

first computer readable program code for providing information identifying the item or the service;

second computer readable program code for providing a query as to a transaction to be performed related to the identified item or service; and

5           third computer readable program code for sending to a server system a request to execute the transaction related to the identified item or service in response to the user response to the query, whereby the transaction is executed without the user performing a manual action.

21.       The computer program product of claim 20, further comprising  
10       fourth computer program code for gathering information from the Internet.

22.       The computer program product of claim 20, further comprising a fifth computer program code for performing comparisons between a plurality of transactions in order to chose an optimal transaction.

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